

Application No.: 10/087,190

Docket No.: 511582003420

REMARKS

Claims 4-7, 9-13, 15, 19-21, 48, 49, 54, 65-70 and 78-82 are pending. Claims 1-3, 8, 11, 14, 16-47, 50-53, and 55-77 have been cancelled. Claims 15, 48-49 and 54 have been withdrawn. Claims 4, 12, 13, 15 and 48 have been amended. No new matter has been added and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

The pending claims have been amended to relate to the protein sequence disclosed in SEQ ID NO: 2, which should have been recited as SEQ ID NO: 3. Applicants have also amended claim 4 to specify an isolated antibody or fragment thereof.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

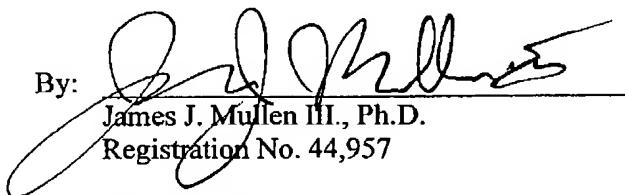
In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. 511582003420.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 23, 2004

By:

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